

REMARKS

The present application relates to a recycling method.

In the Office Action of June 27, 2007, the Examiner objected to claims 6 and 14 because of informalities in punctuation. Furthermore, the examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 10-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al.(EP 0 756 238 A1); and claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al. (EP 0 756 238 A1).

In this Amendment, the punctuation of Claims 6 and 14 have been corrected accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended to define technical features of the present invention, and Claims 17-19 have been canceled.

In view thereof, and for reasons discussed below, Applicant respectfully submits that remaining claims 1-16 meet all statutory requirements and are now in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102 (b): Rejections of Claims 1-8 and 10-19

Claims 1-8 and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al.

Claim 1 has been amended to define a technical feature of the present invention. The object of the present invention is to solve the problems of conventional recycling techniques, as

discussed in the specifications (page 1, line 13- page 4, line 19) in order to contribute to the construction of a recycling-oriented society required by modern society. Namely, the object of the present invention is to establish a consistent system for effectively collecting the used products and then supplying the collected products for recycling to form the recycling-oriented society in which saving of resources and energy are considered. Concretely, the object of the present invention is to recycle the used products into intermediate raw materials for producing the products that provide a recycling system for supplying the products suitable for the recycling-oriented society, wherein

1. products with low environmental load can be produced with reduced energy and then supplied to markets;
2. products considering the health and safety of human beings, and animals and plants living together with the human beings can be supplied to markets; and
3. products whose waste can easily be recycled can be supplied.

Further, it is preferable to connect members of the recycling system to each other through a telecommunication network to share the management information of the identification displays appended to the recycled products, the constituent members including at least product producers, product sellers, members for collecting the used products, members for transporting the used products, and intermediate raw material producers who jointly operate the system for recycling the products.

The document cited by the Examiner, EP 0 756 238 A1 (hereafter referred to as Suzuki), only discloses “a discarded article processing system for discarded articles such as discarded

electric appliances for home use”, but does not disclose a recycling method for “a product partially or fully made from polyester” as presently claimed. The method for handling these two types of products are different.

Furthermore, Suzuki does not disclose the special technical feature of the present invention of “members including at least product producers, product sellers, members for collecting the used products, members for transporting the used products, and intermediate raw material producers, as constituent members, who jointly operate the system for recycling the products so as to share management information of identification displays appended to the recycled products through a telecommunication network, wherein the management information is stored in database.”

Suzuki concentrates on using management information stored in a storage unit 350 for storing databases 35-37, and 41 only in recycling factories as described in column [0016] and figs. 5, 13-22 etc., but not on sharing the management information among “members including at least product producers, product sellers, members for collecting the used products, members for transporting the used products, and intermediate raw material producers, as constituent members” as the present invention does.

Hence, Suzuki does not have the following merits:

1. Merit for consumers is effectively to collect the used product from a consumer to pay back a prescribed amount of refund to the consumer when the management information contained in the

identification display appended to the used product is read and the product is consequently found to fit to prescribed standards (page 5, lines 20-25);

2. Merit for product sellers is to add a constant recycling-promoting cost to the selling price of each of the products (page 13, line 12- page 15, line 8);

3. Merit for used-product collecting members is to confirm whether the stored waste is recyclable waste or not by the management information stored in the database, and to receive the added cost paid to the seller B or the customer C from the GVF information network manager G (page 15, line 9- page 17, line 3);

and so forth.

Clearly, Suzuki does not teach nor suggest the special technical feature of the present invention. Thus the present invention is not obvious over Suzuki.

35 U.S.C. § 103 (a): Rejections of Claim 9

Applicant submits that Claim 9 is allowable because it depends from amended Claim 1, which Applicants submit is allowable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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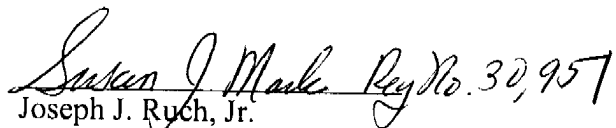
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